

January 13, 1958

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CONCORD, N.H.

State Board of Nursing Education
State Board of Education
Room 409, State House Annex
Concord, New Hampshire

Att: Cecilia Sinclair, Executive Secretary

My dear Miss Sinclair:

By your letters of October 8 and December 20, 1957 you have requested the opinion of this office relative to an interpretation of Chapter 288, Laws 1957.

It is apparent that the purpose and legislative intent manifested in Chapter 288 is to provide economic assistance to those students seeking to become trained in the field of nursing. It is our understanding that all but one school in New Hampshire provides a three-year course in nursing, and your question is whether a four-year course in nursing was within the contemplation of Chapter 288. Our answer is in the affirmative with this qualification. It is apparent from the factual information furnished this office that the four-year course in basic nursing conducted by St. Anselm's College does not in its first year provide any professional nursing credits with the exception of three. Thereafter in the second year nursing credits increase to twenty, third year to twenty-one and fourth year to seventeen. Thus it is evident that although one might enroll in St. Anselm's College with the thought of obtaining a bachelor of science degree in nursing, that nevertheless after the first year there would appear to be nothing that would preclude the student from changing to another major since the academic requirements would seem to be quite general for the first year. It is the opinion of this office that assistance under the provisions of Chapter 288 which contemplates under Section 3 that aid should be spread over a maximum period of three years, means three years of actual nursing training. That being so, students at St. Anselm's would be precluded the first year from receiving assistance but not thereafter if enrolled in the program of study of professional nursing as outlined in your statement of facts.

Sincerely yours,

WJD/m

William J. Deachman
Assistant Attorney General